

25X1A → INTELLOFAX 1

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

TOPIC PS Battalion in Stozec

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 5 July 1951

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REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. Prior to 29 April 1951, a PS battalion in Stozec (Tusset, H 49/Q 44) was subordinate to the PS brigade in Volary (H 49/Q 55) which was commanded by Major Galus (fnu). In late 1950, elements of the brigade in Volary were inspected by SNB Captain Kopriva (fnu), from Prague, who was especially concerned about the morale of the recruits.
2. The headquarters of the PS battalion in Stozec was in the former forestry administration building and was commanded by Lieutenant Koudela (fnu). The battalion was organized into five companies, i.e., one in Mve Udoli (Neuthal, H 49/Q 44), one at the Tristolicnik (H 49/Q 43) Mountain, one at the Plesny (Ploecenstein, H 49/Q 43) Mountain, one which was referred to as "na Kanale" and one in an unknown sector. The postal address was "Private X, 8237, POB 99/72, Volary". \*
3. There were 108 men at the battalion headquarters, including cooks, drivers, craftsmen, etc. About 70 percent of the personnel were Czechs and 30 percent Slovaks. They were armed with model 98-M rifles and Czech submachine guns. Two light machine guns and egg-shaped hand grenades were issued in case of alarm. Motor vehicles included 4 trucks, 4 passenger cars, and 4 motorcycles. Green epaulets and insignia with a dog's head were introduced in late April 1951. Fellow-soldiers stated that recruits were inducted in April 1951. \*\*
4. Infantry and border guard training in Volary lasted until 23 December 1950. During the period of training, record practice with rifles, submachine guns and light machine guns was held once a week, and political indoctrination at a rate of 2 hours per day. Political indoctrination was later reduced to only 20 minutes every morning. The soldiers' morale was low because they had virtually no time off.
5. No details on border guard duty by the companies were known. Four men of the battalion were daily detached to C-Kriz, (Schwarzes Kreuz) about 3 km east of Stozec, where two men occupied a watchtower and the two others made train checks.

Comment. 8237 is probably the Utvar number of the battalion.

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No Change in Class. ☐

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\*  Comment. It is doubted that a battalion headquarters would include as many as 100 men, inasmuch as a company has only 40 to 60 men. The introduction of green service color into border guard units was previously reported by another deserter. . Czechoslovakia thus fell into the pattern of all other Satellite countries. The dog's head insignia is the traditional emblem of the Czechoslovakian border guards.

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